



COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Scott J. Svonkin
Chairperson

Daniel Falcon
Vice-Chairperson

Barry R. Binder, Esq.
Bob L. Blake
Glenn S. Brown, J.D.
Helene S. Lohr, LUTCF
Luther W. Nash
Patricia Torres, Esq.
Steven Vicencia, CPCU
William K. Callagy

MINUTES

Meeting of March 18, 2010
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 383
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Commissioners Present: Scott J. Svonkin, Barry Binder Esq., Helene S. Lohr, LUTCF, Luther W. Nash, Patricia Torres, Esq., Steve Vicencia CPCU and William K. Callagy

Commissioners Absent: Bob L. Blake, Glenn S. Brown, J.D., and Daniel Falcon

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of a quorum, Chairperson Svonkin called the meeting to order as a Committee of the Whole at 10:10 a.m.

(Commissioner Torres joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.)

There being a quorum, Chairperson Svonkin called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairperson Svonkin.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Binder, seconded by Commissioner Vicencia and unanimously carried, the January 21, 2010 meeting minutes were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairperson Svonkin reported the following:

- Staff sent an invitation to Anthem Blue Cross to discuss the proposed 39% increase in cost and received a response from the General Manager stating they would not be able to attend the March meeting due to various meetings they are obligated to attend and if time permits they will consider attending the next scheduled meeting; and
- Extended an invitation to Consumer Watchdog and others who may be interested in attending a meeting to discuss how a 39% increase may affect them personally.

DISCUSSION ON HEALTH CARE RATE INCREASE

Discussion ensued on the 39% increase in benefits by Anthem Blue Cross and its effect on all constituents during this recession. The Attorney General is investigating the legality and justification of the increase. Chairman Svonkin encouraged all Commissioners to follow this matter closely.

DISCUSSION ON FLOOD INSURANCE COVERAGE AND RATES

Commissioner Nash shared complaints he's received regarding flood insurance coverage and the problems encountered by constituents. He also expressed his concern for the lack of explanation provided for questions such as when does landslide become a mudslide or does earthquake insurance cover earth movement? After discussion, Chairman Svonkin suggested staff assist Commissioner Nash in contacting the National Flood Insurance Program managed by FEMA and invite a representative to attend a Commission meeting to provide an overview of flood insurance coverage.

DISCUSSION ON INVITATION TO CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER TO ATTEND A FUTURE MEETING

Following discussion the Commission agreed to invite the two winning candidates of the June election. Staff was instructed to prepare letters of invitation to send to candidates inviting them to the July or September Commission meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA TO BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA

Chairman Svonkin asked Commissioner Nash or Commissioner Callagy to ask Supervisor Antonovich to host and fund the next press release alerting residents to obtain fire insurance and remind residents to have their possessions insured in the event of an earthquake.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. The next meeting is May 20, 2010.

ATTENDANCE

Staff

Twila P. Kerr, Board of Supervisors
Lupe Duron, Board of Supervisors